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COUNTRY USSR (Baltic)

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SUBJECT Warships in the Baltic Sea

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ACQUIRED NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF
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Comment: In items 1 and 2, read Tallinn for Tallin and Kronshtadt
for Kronstadt. In item 1, fourth remark, read slowed down for lowed down. In
item 4, read Cape Shepelevskiy for Cape Shepdewski.

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COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Naval Vessels in the Baltic Sea

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 3 November 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 6 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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From 26 August to 10 September 1955, Soviet naval vessels were observed in the Baltic Sea. The following details were determined:

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Date	Time	Position	Class	Type	Course and Speed	Remarks
1. 26 August	0800	area between Porkkala and Tallin lightship	3 destroyers	u/i (?)	west	Three one-stack destroyers line ahead. No details could be determined.
26 August	0810	area between Porkkala and Tallin	6 speed boats	u/i	west; high speed	The vessels ran in echelon one aft of the other with the bows high above the surface and with high stern waves. No details could be determined.
26 August	1700	off Hogland	destroyer	u/i	west	The destroyer was of an old type and had two stacks of which the first was thicker than the other; comparatively short funnel, deck with sheer forward of, or in line with, bridge; torpedo tube between stacks; whether the tube belonged to a tube set or not could not be determined.
26 August	1720	off Hogland	destroyer	u/i (?)	west; high speed	The destroyer had two stacks. No other details could be determined. She ran at high speed 2 or 3 sea miles to the west and made a high white bow wave, slowed down and turned and ran to and fro several times.
31 August	1300	area between Kronstadt and Leningrad lightship	speed boats	u/i	west; approximately 35 knots	The five mine sweepers turned toward the south off Leningrad lightship. Vessel [] towed a small target. After the vessels were out of sight in the south, discharges of light machine weapons possibly of 20-mm caliber were heard.
31 August	1310	Leningrad lightship	submarine	u/i	east; medium speed	The submarine was estimated to be 1,000 tons. She flew no flag and no armament was visible. The conning tower had two steps aft.
31 August	1400	west of Leningrad lightship	submarines	u/i	-	The submarines zig-zagged one aft of the other, turned sharply to the reciprocal course and made a sharp turn by 90 degrees. They were much smaller than submarine [] their conning towers had only one step aft. No armament was visible.
31 August	1410	west of Leningrad lightship	submarines	u/i	-	The submarines [] ran to and fro.

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2.	26 August	1230	east of Porkkala	[REDACTED]	3 vessels	u/i	-4- south	The vessels ran line ahead toward Tallin. The [REDACTED] were of one type. Approximately 60 to 70 meters long, clipper stem, one stack, top-mast with yard forward bridge; a gun on the fore'sle and port of cross-beam at the stern. Low superstructure or devices, but no armament, on quarterdeck.	25X1
3.	29 August	1600	off Ventspils harbor		speed boat	u/i	-	The vessel left Ventspils harbor, approached [REDACTED] ship up to 500 meters and turned back toward shore. She was approximately 20 meters long and flew the Soviet war ensign. No other details were determined.	25X1
	29 August	1620	east of Ventspils		speed boat	u/i	-	The vessel was of the same type as the speed boat sighted at 1600. She drifted, approached [REDACTED] ship and apparently turned.	25X1
	29 August	2000	Gulf of Riga		speed boat	u/i	-	The vessel was of the same type as the vessels sighted at 1600 and 1620. She drifted between buoys 2 and 3 of Riga approach road, approached [REDACTED] ship and turned, apparently after reading ship's name and home port.	25X1
	29 August	2200	Gulf of Riga		speed boat	u/i	-	The vessel spotlighted [REDACTED] ship for a short time between buoys 4 and 5 of Riga approach road.	25X1
	29 August	2200	Gulf of Riga		2 Destroyers (?)	u/i	-	Two large two-stack destroyers were apparently at anchor between buoys 4 and 5.	25X1
4.	31 August and 1 September	day- and time	coastal sections between Odensholm and Cape Juminda and between Lavancaari and Cape Scheydowski	u/i	u/i	-	Several naval vessels of various types which patrolled up and down along the shore at a distance of approximately 10 sea miles from each other. They were one-stack and two-stack vessels. The one-stack vessels were small, thick-set vessels, approximately 40 to 50 meters long; the two-stack vessels were approximately 60 to 70 meters long. No other details could be determined. The vessels moved at slow speed and, after a run of 4 or 5 sea miles, turned to reciprocal course. Some of the vessels moved in the area which is marked as mined area in the sea chart. No continuous operation of the vessels and no assembly of ships were observed. On 8 and 9 September, the same movements were observed. There was intensive searchlight	25X1	

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5. 2 September 2300 off
Duenamuende

6. 2 September 1400 between Dugoe
oto and Helsinki
1600 lightship

destroyer u/1
(?)

Soviet
naval
unit

activity at night along the Baltic coast during the period under review.

Large destroyer with two masting stacks left Duenamuende harbor, ran as far as the approach buoy and turned to the portside.

At 1400, a large number of vessels was determined by radar seaward of ship at a distance of 18 seamiles on reciprocal course. At 1420, when they had approached ship up to approximately 10 seamiles the leading vessels turned by 90 degrees to the portside and moved in the direction of Odensholm. A submarine moving far ahead of the unit was seen at a distance of 1 seamile from the portside of ship. She had a weight of approximately 2,000 tons; flush deck, slightly sloping toward stern; stout conning tower with one step for and aft and a gun on each step; light AA gun abaft steering position on the conning tower. The submarine moved approximately 15 knots toward west and was out of sight soon. During the next half hour, all vessels turned, covered approximately 10 seamiles on the new course and turned back to the old course along the shore. All together, approximately 150 vessels were counted. Five cruisers and at least 10 large destroyers were determined. All of them had two stacks. The cruisers led the unit and the destroyers were placed on either side. No mine sweepers moved ahead. The unit included mine sweepers, coastal mine sweepers and submarine chasers which moved in large groups mostly with three abreast at a distance of at least 2 seamiles from each other. No auxiliary vessels were seen. Some of the smaller vessels made much smoke and no details could be determined. The unit also included at least 15 submarines which moved independently. The unit apparently moved through the Moonson and entered the Gulf of Riga.

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7. 4 September 0610 59°55'N/
26°18'E [redacted] submarines u/i west; medium speed [redacted] The two submarines ran line ahead and passed [redacted] ship at a distance of approximately 1.5 seamiles. Submarine [redacted] had a weight of approximately 500 tons; small open gun forward; conning tower; a small superstructure with a flagstaff aft of conning tower. No periscope or snorkel visible. Submarine [redacted] had a weight of approximately 750 tons. Two gun barrels 25X1 projected from the front side of the conning tower; a small superstructure aft of conning tower; no periscope or snorkel. The two submarines flew the Soviet war ensign. 25X1
8. 4 September 1620 56°43'N/
21°19'E [redacted] naval unit - - The unit consisted of a cruiser, a destroyer, three submarine chasers, a large auxiliary vessel and two small motor vessels and was sighted at a distance of 3 seamiles. It appeared to make exercises. The auxiliary vessels did not move, the submarine chasers stayed together and the destroyer started with the cruiser. The unit was sighted for approximately half an hour. No aircraft were observed. The cruiser had a thick, straight stack. She was probably the *Comar* or *REBEC*. The destroyer had two stacks, the forward close to the bridge; pole mast at trailing edge of bridge; deck superstructures close to second stack. Armament could not be distinguished. The destroyer rather heavily heeled at force 4, whereas the cruiser rode comparatively still. The submarine chasers belonged to the *Fronstadt* class. They drew a good deal of water in the short sea. The auxiliary vessel was a large steamer with two straight stacks and two masts and low superstructures amidships. No details of the two small motor vessels could be determined. 25X1
9. 4 to 5 September 2300 between Helsinki and Kiel-Holtenau approximately 50 miles west of Langoe Soviet naval unit of 2 cruisers, 4 destroyers (?), 4 submarine chasers (?) - - At 2300 on 4 September, [redacted] a white light at a distance of approximately 10 seamiles starboard ahead. Closely observed with the night glasses, several low shadows were determined. Later on, green sidelights were sighted. At midnight, when the moon came through the clouds for a short time, the shadows of two large ships and eight smaller units could be determined. The two large ships

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10. 9 September 1000	Ducy 5, Road 32 where Roads 32, 32 a and 62 join		mine sweeper T 301 (?)	east; 8 to 10 knots	<p>appeared to be cruises with 2 stacks. One of them had set position lights. The white masthead light was very high and aft of the side light. The smaller vessels had set all their masthead and side lights. Shortly after midnight, the entire unit turned to reciprocal course and the red side lights became visible. Four of the smaller vessels looked like destroyers; they were rather long shadows. The other four vessels appeared to be submarine chasers of the Kronstadt class. At 0100, the unit moved out of sight.</p> <p>The vessel moved on Road 62 and turned into Road 32a.</p>	25X1
11. 10 September 2130	between Leningrad lightship and Ducy 2		mine sweeper ex II 40	-	<p>The vessel was stopped; she spotlighted [] ship when she passed and followed her as far as Ducy 2.</p>	25X1

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